# Orchard Park Central School District 2022 Educational Improvement Project

**Community Report Special Edition** 

# **Investing In Our Future**

Zero % New Tax Levy Impact



### Pool & Fitness Room at Orchard Park High School

The Educational Improvement project includes a new addition to replace the current high school pool. The new pool will allow the district to host Sectional and ECIC events and offer community access during non-school hours. The addition will include a fitness room overlooking the new pool. The current Orchard Park High School pool was constructed in 1959 as a gymnasium; in 1976 it was converted to a pool. The pool's current systems are at the end of their useful life. Once the new pool is complete, the old pool will be converted into a physical education space.

### ADA Playgrounds

An inclusive playground will be constructed at each of our four (4) elementary schools as we continue our focus on



inclusive programming and access for all of our students and community members.

### Full Grade Level of Pre-K By September 2026



A full grade level of pre-Kindergarten will allow the district to provide transitional support to children through increased Kindergarten readiness and early intervention.

Current Orchard Park UPK students from Windom Elementary.

# This project has 0% additional tax levy impact



am very excited to share information regarding

this amazing opportunity for the **Orchard Park Central School District** and our community. The Orchard Park Central School District is proposing an Educational Facilities Improvement project with no additional tax levy impact to the community! The total projected investment of the Educational Facilities Improvement project is \$114 million. This project will be funded by a combination of the District's Capital Reserve and serial bonds.

The project will invest in our buildings and complexes as

# Superintendent David Lilleck

we move forward to ensure our facilities are updated, enhanced and inclusive for all students and community members. It is crucial that this project be completed now as this work will prepare the district to meet future needs by:

- 1. Providing new pre-K classrooms - a full grade level of pre-K in each elementary building by the fall of 2026
- 2. Providing additional instructional space
- 3. Enhancing existing classrooms
- Adding and updating music 4. rooms
- Creating additional physical 5. education and athletic instructional areas

Replacing the current high 6. school pool

Further, many of the items that will be replaced are either at or close to the end of their usable life. If they are not replaced within this project, much of the work will still need to be completed over the course of the next few years, which will likely lead to a tax levy impact on the community.

Thank you for your support as we update, enhance, and improve our facilities to build upon the foundation of excellence that we have in place. What a fantastic opportunity to continue to ensure inclusivity and access for all students and community members with no additional tax levy impact!

\$8,283,930

7%

Arts/Music

14%

\$16,262,198

#### How is this investment accomplished? NO NEW LOCAL TAX IMPACT SCOPE BREAKDOWN Use of Debt Service Reserve funds will eliminate any new local tax impact. General Renovations Pool/Fitness Addition \$30,026,792 \$23,614,431 Funding 26% 21% Project Maximum to Investment be borrowed 70% State Project Aid & \$114 million \$110 million Use of \$4 million in Capital Reserves Pre-K Athletics • Additions \$11,100,270 \$16.391.328 10% 15% he project's cost would be funded by over the life of this project. There will only be a combination of the District's Capital four years, from 2028-29 to 2031-32, that the Sitework Playgrounds/ Improvements ADA Inclusive Reserve and serial bonds. When paying back local share will need to be supplemented by \$8.264.315 Programming

payments.

the bonds over a 15 year period, we will be available Debt Service Reserve funds to keep receiving NY State Building Aid which will the impact on taxpayers' level. These funds pay for the majority of principal and interest can only be used for this purpose by law. This We have retiring debt service is a part of our financing plan. There will be no starting in 2022-23 which continues to decline new tax levy increase due to this capital project.

7%

# Orchard Park High School Campus



# Project Work

- Replace the existing artificial turf field which is at the end of its useful life.
- 2 New home team bleachers and press box on the east side of the field.
- 3 Relocate existing visitor bleachers by moving from the east side of the field to the west side.
- A Replace the existing athletic field lighting with new athletic field lighting.
- 5 Demolish the existing locker room & concession stand building and construct a new concession stand building which will include locker rooms, restrooms and storage.
- 6 Regrade existing sod football practice field to include new drainage.
- New music wing addition. The addition will include: a new band room, practice rooms, toilet rooms, and an elevator.

Demolish a portion of the existing parking area.



Regrade site for new soccer field.

10 New parking area directly adjacent to new pool area.

- New pool addition. The addition will include: pool, locker rooms, fitness/weight room, and seating for 600 spectators.
  - The current pool was originally constructed in 1959 as a gymnasium. In 1976 it was converted to a pool. The most recent renovations occurred in 1998 however its systems are at the end of their useful life.
  - The new pool would allow the district the ability to host Sectional and ECIC events.
  - The community would be able to access the pool during non-school hours: before school, evenings, weekends, school breaks & summer.

### Orchard Park Middle School & South Davis Campus

### Project Work

- New music wing addition. The addition will include; band, orchestra, chorus general music and special education classrooms, toilet rooms, and a fitness/weight room.
  - Replace the existing tennis courts with a new parking area.
- Construct new tennis courts and one new basketball court. Courts will be shared by both schools.
  - Eliminate the existing cinder track and regrade existing lawn area to construct new sod athletic play fields.
  - Regrade the existing lawn to construct 60 yd by 100 yd soccer field.
- 6 Construct new parking area west of the Buildings & Grounds building and relocate the existing fueling station.
- Construct a new campus roadway. The roadway will provide directional travel within the site which will egress onto Thorn Avenue.
- 8
- Addition of six pre-K classrooms at South Davis Elementary.
- Install a new ADA accessible playground with designated pre-K play area.



# Why is the District proposing a capital project now?

The Orchard Park Central School District is proposing the current project to meet the needs determined by the current condition of our buildings, to ensure our facilities are inclusive for all students and ensure our facilities are safe for our students, staff, and community members. It is crucial that this project is done now as this project will prepare the district to meet future needs by:

- Providing new pre-K classrooms
- Providing additional classrooms
- Enhancing existing classrooms
- Adding and updating music rooms
- Creating additional physical education and athletic instructional areas

Replacing the current high school pool

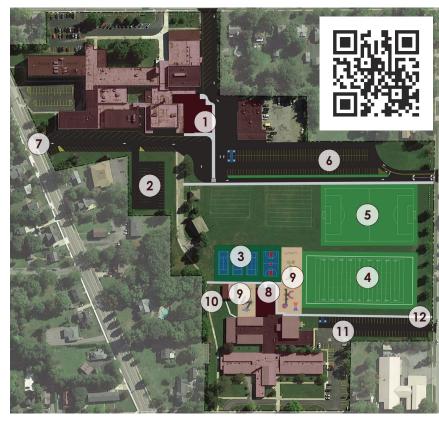
#### What is the total cost of this proposed project and how will it affect my taxes?

The total cost of the capital project is \$114 million. The project's cost would be funded by a combination of the District's Capital Reserve and serial bonds. When paying back the bonds over a 15 year period, we will be receiving NY State Building Aid that will pay for the majority of principal and interest payments. We have retiring debt service starting in 2022-23 which continues to decline over the life of this project. There will only be four years, from 2028-29 to 2031-32, that the local share will need to be supplemented by available Debt Service Reserve funds to keep the impact on taxpayers level. This is a part of our financing plan. *There will be no new tax levy increase due to this capital project.* 

# How was the proposed capital project developed?

The Facilities Committee had a licensed architect perform a Building Condition Survey, a comprehensive facility review that considered work completed in previous projects and conditions of all facilities. Additionally, they met with the administration and district committees to discuss instructional

Q&A continued on page 5



Provide site lighting at the outdoor classroom and playground areas.

Construct a concrete walking path-

way around the athletic area.

New parking area with driveway access to Thorn Avenue.

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(12)

### Eggert Elementary Campus



### Project Work

- Addition of six pre-K classrooms.
- New ADA playground with designated pre-K play area.
- Install new courtyard shade structure and matching playground surfacing.

### Ellicott Elementary Campus

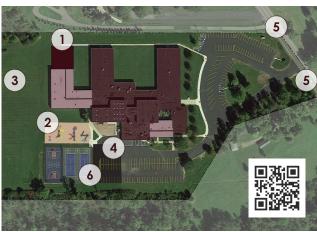
### Project Work

Addition of six pre-K classrooms.

1

5

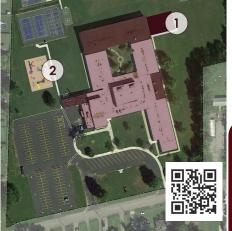
- 2 New ADA playground with designated pre-K play area.
- Install yard drainage at the ball fields behind the school.
- Construct additional parking area at former playground.
- ) Install new flashing school zone signs at roadway.



Install new parking area with new safety bollards
 between existing tennis courts and new parking area.

## Windom Elementary Campus

2



# Project Work

Addition of six pre-K classrooms.

New ADA playground with designated pre-K play area.

#### The Investing in our Future Educational Improvement project will:

- Ensure our facilities are inclusive for our students
- Ensure our facilities are safe for our students, staff and community members
- Prepare the district for the future

To learn more about the project use the QR codes throughout this brochure to find information about the project as a whole or the portion you are interested in.



#### Continued from page 4

areas requiring attention and programmatic needs. The Facilities Committee then developed the current project's scope, delivery, timeline and financing in alignment with the District's long-range facilities plan.

# When will the work take place?

The project will be completed in four phases. It is anticipated that the first phase will begin in the spring of 2023 and the fourth phase is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2026. For more detailed information about the four phases of the project please view page six of the brochure.

# What if the referendum does not pass?

The critical safety requirements and facilities that reached their end-of-life identified by the mandated Building Condition Survey would still be necessary. If the referendum does not pass, these requirements will still need to be addressed. A bond vote allows the District to receive partial reimbursement of the project's cost through State Building Aid. Without this aid, the funds for any required work would have to come from the annual budget, with local taxpayers bearing the full cost. This, more than likely, would lead to a tax levy increase.

Q&A continued on page 6

### Projected Schedule Components FOUR PHASED PROJECT APPROACH FOR DELIVERY OF PROGRAM

| Phase 1  | Phase 2  | Phase 3   | Phase 4   |
|--|--|---|---|
| April September<br>2023 -→ 2023  | October September<br>2023 -→ 2025  | April October<br>2024   | January September<br>2025   |
| <ul> <li>» OPHS Turf<br/>Replacement<br/>OPHS Bleachers/<br/>Press Box/Lighting</li> <li>» OPHS Fieldhouse/<br/>Concessions</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>» OPHS Pool Addition</li> <li>» OPHS Music Addition</li> <li>» Middle School Site/<br/>Courts</li> <li>» EL/EG/SD/WE<br/>Playgrounds</li> </ul>                             | <ul> <li>» Middle School Music<br/>Addition</li> <li>» Middle School Park-<br/>ing/Lincoln Access</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>» SD/WE/EG/EL<br/>Additions</li> <li>» Full grade level pre-K<br/>will begin - Sept. 2026</li> </ul> |
| <b>QEA</b><br>Continued from page 5.   | Why is the District<br>proposing a new<br>turf field and new<br>bleachers?<br>The Orchard Park High School<br>turf field was put in in 2008. A<br>turf field typically has a 15-year | life span so the field is currently<br>at the end of its useful life and<br>needs to be replaced. The New<br>York State Education Department<br>is requiring that the bleachers be<br>replaced as they are not Ameri-<br>cans with Disabilities Act (ADA)<br>compliant. |   |

# High School Band Room



# High School Pool and Fitness Area



# Middle School Orchestra Room



Orchard Park Central Schools Board of Education Orchard Park, New York 14127 Editor: Julianne Becker www.opschools.org (716) 209-6222

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# Resident

### Date, Time and Location of Public Vote

Tuesday, May 17, 2022 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. Orchard Park High School Gymnasium 4040 Baker Road Orchard Park, NY 14127

#### **On The Ballot**

#### **Proposition I: Operating Budget**

 The 2022-23 operating budget has a 0% tax levy increase.

#### Proposition II: Innovate, Include and Enhance Educational Facilities Improvement Project

 0% tax levy increase - funded through capital project state aid, reduction of existing debt and use of district capital reserves.

#### **Proposition III: Bus Purchase**

• 0% tax levy increase and continues the 17- year Bus Replacement Program.

#### **Election of Two Trustees**

• Term: July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2025







### This project has 0% additional tax levy impact

### **Absentee Ballots**

Applications for absentee ballots for the 2022-23 Annual School Vote may be obtained at the District Clerk's Office, 2240 Southwestern Blvd., West Seneca, NY. For more information on absentee ballots, please visit www.opschools.org or contact the District Clerk at 209-6280.

### **Voter Eligibility**

- At least 18 years of age.
- A United States citizen.
- A District resident for at least 30 days before the date of the vote.



Tuesday, May 17, 2022. 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. at the HS Gymnasium

